

REMARKS

The Examiner has subjected the claims of the pending application to a Restriction Requirement, saying that the claims of Group I and Group II are directed to different products. With respect, the Applicants traverse this requirement and point out that the microencapsulated catalytic system of claim 15 is just a preferred embodiment of the immobilized catalytic system of claim 1.

However, to be responsive to the Restriction Requirement, the Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I for prosecution at this time. Further to that election, the Applicants have added new claim 24, dependent on claim 1, which incorporates the primary limitations of claim 15, and have withdrawn claim 15. In addition, claims 16-20 have been amended to be dependent on new claim 24 and are, thus, properly included within Group I. New claim 25 (dependent on claim 24) has been added to incorporate another limitation of claim 15.

The Applicants submit that all claims in the above-identified application are in condition for allowance and such action is requested.

Application No.: 10/501,130

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TC Unit: 1641

Confirmation No. 5628

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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